

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rebecca M. Alper, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

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Language, Literacy, and Learning Lab

**CONTACT**

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor	Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA	July 2017-Present
Adjunct Faculty	Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA	2016-2017

EDUCATION

Postdoctoral Fellowship	Department of Psychology, Temple University , Philadelphia, PA Advisor: Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, Ph.D.	2015-2017
Ph.D., Speech and Hearing Science	Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of Iowa , Iowa City, IA Advisors: Karla McGregor, Ph.D., CCC-SLP and Richard Hurtig, Ph.D.	2010-2015
Graduate Certificate in Biostatistics	Department of Biostatistics, University of Iowa , Iowa City, IA	2010-2014
Clinical Fellowship, Speech-Language Pathology	Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of Iowa , Iowa City, IA	2012-2014
M.A. Speech Pathology and Audiology	Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of Iowa , Iowa City, IA	2010-2012
B.S., Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (Honors), Spanish Minor	Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, Purdue University , West Lafayette, IN	2006-2010



PUBLICATIONS

* Peer-reviewed or refereed, #Student author

In Progress

Alper, R.M., Luo, R., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Mogul, M., Chen, Y., Masek, L., Paterson, S., Pace, A., Adamson, L., Bakeman, R., Golinkoff, R., Owen, M. (in prep). The Duet Project: A preliminary randomized controlled trial of an early language intervention for at-risk families.

Alper, R.M., Luo, R., Hirsh-Pasek, K., #Beiting, M., #Levi, O. (in prep). Knowledge of child development moderates the relationship between parent perceived self-efficacy, child language, and parent-child interaction quality.

Published or Submitted

*Luo, R., **Alper, R.M (co-first author)**, Hirsh-Pasek, K., Mogul, M., Chen, Y., Masek, L., Paterson, S., Pace, A., Adamson, L., Bakeman, R., Golinkoff, R., Owen, M. (under review). Community-based, caregiver-implemented early language intervention in high-risk families: Lessons learned.

***Alper, R.M.**, Hurtig, R., & McGregor, K (accepted). The role of maternal psychosocial perceptions in parent-training programs: A preliminary randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Child Language*.

*Pace, A., **Alper, R.**, Burchinal, M., Hirsh-Pasek, K., & Golinkoff, R. (2019). Measuring success: Within and cross-domain predictors of academic and social trajectories in elementary school. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 46(1), 112-125.

*Hirsh-Pasek, K., **Alper, R.M. (co-first author)**, & Golinkoff, R.M. (2018). Living in Pasteur's Quadrant: How Conversational Duets spark language at home and in the community. *Discourse Processes*, 55(4), 338-345.

Hurtig, R., **Alper, R.M.**, & Berkowitz, B. (2018). The cost of not addressing the communication barriers faced by hospitalized patients. *Perspectives on Augmentative and Alternative Communication* (SIG 12), 3(12), 99-112.

*Plakans, L., **Alper, R.**, Colvin, C., Aquilino, M., Louko, L., Zebrowski, P., & Ali, S.R. (2016). Socialization in the institution: A working group's journey to bring public engagement into focus on campus. *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 20 (3), 122-139.

***Alper, R.M.** & McGregor, K.K. (2015) Agency as a construct for guiding the establishment of communication-friendly classrooms. *Child Language Teaching and Therapy*, 31(3), 337-346.

*McGregor, K.K., & **Alper, R.M.** (2015). Sleep disorders as a risk to language learning and use. *EBP Briefs*, 10(1), 1-21.

***Alper, R.**, Fu, X., Erickson-Levendoski, E., Zheng, W., & Sivasankar, M. (2011). Acute stress to excised vocal fold epithelium from reactive oxygen species. *Laryngoscope*, 121(10), 2180-2184.

Book Chapters

Alper, R. M., Masek, L.R., Hirsh-Pasek, K., & Golinkoff, R. (2018). "Languagizing" the early childhood classroom: Supporting children's language development. In C.T. Adger, C.E. Snow, & D. Christian, *What teachers need to know about language (2nd Edition)*; pp.85-94). Bristol, UK: Multilingual Matters.

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed Conference Presentations

Alper, R.M., Luo, R., Pace, A., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Mogul, M., Chen, Y., Masek, L., Paterson, S., Adamson, L., Bakeman, R., Golinkoff, R., & Owen, M. (November, 2018). *The Duet Project: Community-based early language intervention*. Presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference, Boston, MA.



- Alper, R.M.**, Luo, R., Pace, A., Mogul, M., Chen, Y., Masek, L., Paterson, S., Adamson, L., Bakeman, R., Golinkoff, R., Owen, M., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (November, 2018). The Duet Project: A community-based home-visiting partnership. In R.R. Romeo (Chair) Varying approaches to early language interventions for lower-SES families. Symposium conducted at the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Pace, A., Burchinal, M., **Alper, R.**, Hirsh-Pasek, K., & Golinkoff, R. (April, 2017) Early language outshines other predictors of academic and social trajectories in elementary school: Why gains are key. In R. Alper (Chair) *Language: An Engine for Academic and Socio-Emotional Development*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development Conference.
- Hurtig, R. & **Alper, R.** (2017). *Impact of communication barriers on adverse events in hospitalized patients*. Presented at the Assistive Technology Industry Association Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Alper, R.**, Luo, R., Pace, A., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Fischer, J., Mogul, M., Adamson, L., Bakeman, R., Golinkoff, R., Owen, M., Paterson, S., Masek, L., & Tejada, J. (November, 2016). *Evidence-based early communication intervention in high-risk neighborhoods*. Presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Hurtig, R. & **Alper, R.** (November, 2016). *The impact of communication barriers on adverse events in hospitalized patients*. Presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Burchinal, M.R., Pace, A., **Alper, R.**, Hirsh-Pasek, K., & Golinkoff, R.M. (July 2016). *Early language outshines other predictors of academic and social trajectories in elementary school*. Paper presented at the Association for Children and Families Conference (ACF), Washington, DC.
- Alper, R.**, Louko, L., Hurtig, R., & Bryant, K. (March/April, 2016). *Psychosocial factors and success in clinical speech-language graduate programs*. Presented at the Council on Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders Conference, San Antonio, Texas.
- Alper, R.**, Luo, R., Tejada, J., Masek, L., Mogul, M., Paterson, S., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Adamson, L.B., Bakeman, R., Owen, M., & Golinkoff, R.M. (June, 2016). Enhancing the Communication Foundation for language development: A community-based participatory research model for intervention. In A. Pace (Chair) *Spreading the Words: Exploring Innovative Models for Early Language Intervention*. Symposium at the International Society for Early Intervention Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Alper, R.**, Hurtig, R., & McGregor, K. (June, 2016). *Maternal psychosocial factors and gains during mother-implemented early language and literacy intervention*. Presented at the International Society on Early Intervention Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Alper, R.**, Hurtig, R., & McGregor, K. (November, 2015). *Determining factors related to success in parent implemented emergent language & literacy intervention*. Presented at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Conference, Denver, CO.
- Alper, R.**, Louko, L., Hurtig, R., & Bryant, K. (November, 2015). *Factors related to graduate student success in clinical speech-language training programs*. Presented at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Conference, Denver, CO.

Invited Talks

- Alper, R.M.** (June, 2019). *Partnering with parents to support high-quality early language interaction*. To be presented at Pennsylvania Association for Infant Mental Health, Philadelphia, PA.
- Alper, R.M.** (March, 2019) *Community-based early language intervention research: Supporting language, academic, and health outcomes for at-risk children*. Presented at Temple University Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Community Conversations, Philadelphia, PA.
- Alper, R.M.** (November, 2017). *It takes a village: Supporting high-quality early language experiences for at-risk families*. Presented at Temple University Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Community Conversations, Philadelphia, PA.
- Alper, R.** & Luo, R (March, 2017). *Building a strong language foundation: How teachers can help*. Presented at Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Philadelphia, PA.



- Alper, R.,** Hurtig, R., & McGregor, K. (2015). Determining factors related to success in parent implemented emergent language & literacy intervention. Seminar presented at the Temple University Research in Spatial Cognition weekly meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- Alper, R.,** Hurtig, R., & McGregor, K. (May, 2015). *Determining the impact of maternal psycho-social factors on gains during mother-implemented early language and literacy intervention.* Presented at University of Iowa, Communication Sciences and Disorders Proseminar, Iowa City, IA.
- Alper, R.** & Hurtig, R. (August, 2014). *Examining differences in contingent responses to child utterances during mother-child dyadic reading.* Presented at University of Iowa, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Proseminar, Iowa City, IA.
- Alper, R.** & Hurtig, R. (2013). *Quantifying maternal linguistic responsivity during dyadic reading.* Presented at Central Medical University, Beijing, China.
- Alper, R.** & Hurtig, R. (2013). *Quantifying maternal linguistic responsivity during dyadic reading.* Presented in a hospital in Tianjin, China.
- Alper, R.** & Hurtig, R. (2011). *Language and literacy-building behaviors: An observational study.* Presented at University of Iowa, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Proseminar, Iowa City, IA.

POSTERS

Peer-Reviewed or Refereed Posters

- Luo, R., **Alper, R.,** Mogul, M., Yu, C., Pace, A., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Adamson, L., Golinkoff, R., Owen, M., Bakeman, R., Masek, L., & Paterson, S. (July, 2018). *Building the bridge: Using community-based participatory research as an innovative approach to develop early language intervention.* Poster presented at the XXI International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS), Philadelphia, PA.
- Chen, Y., Masek, L., **Alper, R.,** Luo, R., Mogul, M., Paterson, S., Pace, A., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Adamson, L., Bakeman, R., Owen, M., & Golinkoff, R. (March, 2018). *More than talk: A pilot intervention targeting teacher-child interactions in Early Head Start.* Poster presented at the Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention (CRIEI), San Diego, CA.
- Luo, R., **Alper, R.,** Pace, A., Mogul, M., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Adamson, L., Golinkoff, R., Owen, M., Bakeman, R., Masek, L. (April, 2017). *Developing an early language intervention for children from at-risk families: Benefits of community-based participatory research.* Poster presented at the Society on Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.
- Luo, R., Mogul, M., **Alper, R.** Pace, A., Scott-Doyle, B., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Adamson, L. B., Bakeman, R., Owen, M., & Golinkoff, R. (May, 2016). *Enhancing the communication foundation through community-based participatory research.* Poster presented at the ACCEL Community Research Exchange. Newark, DE.
- Masek, L., Tejada, J., Luo, R., **Alper, R.,** Pace, A., Mogul, M., Paterson, S., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Adamson, L.B., Bakeman, R., Owen, M., & Golinkoff, R.M. (2016). *Enhancing the communication foundation through community-based participatory research.* Poster presented at the Conference on Research Innovation in Early Intervention, San Diego, CA.
- Alper, R.** & Hurtig, R. (July, 2014). *Meaningful differences in maternal and child contingent responses to child utterances during dyadic reading.* Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Berlin, GER.
- Alper, R.** & Hurtig, R. (June, 2013). *A novel code for quantifying language stimulation behaviors occurring during adult-child dyadic interactions.* Poster presented at the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI.
- Alper, R.** & Hurtig, R. (March, 2012). *Quantifying language stimulation behaviors during adult-child interaction.* Poster presented at the Jakobsen Conference, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.
- Delsandro et al. (October, 2012). *Social skills extended school year programming.* Poster presented at the Iowa Speech and Hearing Association Conference, Iowa City, IA.



Alper, R., Fu, X., Erickson-Levendoski, E., Zheng, W., & Sivasankar, M. (2011). *Impact of acute oxidative stress on barrier properties of vocal fold epithelia*. Poster presented at the American Laryngological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.

Alper, R. & Hurtig, R. (October, 2011). *Using ELAN to analyze verbal and nonverbal adult-child communication*. Poster presented at the Iowa Speech and Hearing Association Conference, Des Moines, IA.

CURRENT AND PENDING RESEARCH SUPPORT

1K23DC017763-01A1, NIDCD/NIH

Alper (PI)

Pending Review

Parent-level predictors of early language interaction quality and intervention outcomes.

This project will examine parent-level abilities as they relate to early language interaction quality and intervention outcomes in typically developing children, children with language disorder, and children with autism and a language disorder.

Role: PI

5-19, William Penn Foundation

Alper (PI), Hirsh-Pasek (Co-PI), & Luo (Co-PI)

06/01/19-05/31/22

Starting the conversation: A new intervention model to stimulate language growth in underserved populations

This project, Duet 2.0, will focus on translating our parent-implemented early language intervention materials into Spanish and determining the efficacy of a light-touch, remote intervention delivery model.

Role: PI

N/A, Bezos Family Foundation

Hirsh-Pasek (PI)

08/01/17-07/31/19

Applying a behavioral economic lens to understanding what expectant and new low-income mothers know and do about their infants' early learning: A cross-institutional collaboration in two urban communities

The goal of this project is to investigate what socioeconomically high-risk mothers and families know about child language development, inform the adaptation of intervention materials for this population, and improve early caregiver-child interaction after birth.

Role: Co-Investigator

2R44NR016406-02, NINR/NIH

Hurtig (PI)

09/25/2017-06/30/2019

The Noddle: A smart switch to enhance patient-provider communication

The goal of this project is to test a new AAC systems designed to improve patient-provider communication in inpatient settings.

Role: Consultant



COMPLETED RESEARCH SUPPORT

45-15, William Penn Foundation

Hirsh-Pasek (PI)

08/01/15-07/31/18

Enhancing the Communication Foundation for Language Development in Early Childhood

The goal of this project is to design and implement a caregiver-implemented, early language intervention for socioeconomically high-risk families through a community-based participatory research framework.

Role: PDC

N/A, University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government

Alper (PI)

02/15/15-02/14/16

Factors Impacting Gains During Parent-Implemented Emergent Language and Literacy Intervention”

The goal of this project was to examine the relationship between caregiver psychosocial characteristics and early language and literacy intervention outcomes.

Role: PI

N/A, Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation

Alper (PI)

02/01/15-01/31/16

Determining Factors Related to Success in Parent-Implemented Emergent Language and Literacy Intervention

The goal of this project was to examine the relationship between caregiver psychosocial characteristics and early language and literacy intervention outcomes.

Role: PI

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

Lessons for Success Program	American Speech-Language-Hearing Association	2019
Pathways Program	American Speech-Language-Hearing Association	2018
Temple University Grant Academy	Each college selects a few faculty annually	2017
Advancing Academic-Research Careers Award (AARC)	American Speech-Language-Hearing Association	2017
Presidential Fellowship	University of Iowa	2010-2015
Iowa Speech and Hearing Association Scholarship	Iowa Speech and Hearing Association	2011
Esther Oghdahl Scholarship	Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of Iowa	2011
Phi Beta Kappa Member	Phi Beta Kappa	2009-Present



TEACHING & INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE*=**graduate**

Management of Child Language Disorders	Temple University	Spring	2017, 2019
Foundations of Child Language Disorders	Temple University	Fall	2016, 2018
Foundations of Clinical Practice (TA)	University of Iowa	Fall	2011
Columbus Junction Service Learning Course (TA)	University of Iowa	Fall	2011
Introduction to Voice Disorders	University of Iowa	Spring	2012

STUDENT MENTORING**Doctoral Theses**

Student	Role	Graduation Date
Molly Beiting	Committee Member	Expected 2021
Anne Van Zelst	Committee Member	N/A

Doctoral Independent Studies

Student	Role	Dates
Molly Beiting	Supervisor	Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Master's Student Theses

Student	Role	Graduation Date
Helen Felker	Committee Member	2018

Undergraduate Lab Members**Current**

Joshua Knappenberger (2019-), Omer Levi (2019-), Michaela Peel (2019-), Caitanne Robinson (2018-), Jessica Zbytniewski (2019-)

Former

Clare Corbett (2018), Janessa Hughes (2018), Jovanna Penza (2018), Samantha Curran (2018-2019)

REVIEWING EXPERIENCE**Ad Hoc Journal Reviewing**

- Child Development
- Educational Research and Reviews
- Infancy
- Journal of Child Language
- Journal of Communication Disorders
- Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics
- PLOS ONE
- Journal of Visual Experiments

Ad Hoc Grant Reviewing

- National Science Foundation



ACADEMIC SERVICE

Level and Activity	Place	Role	Date
University			
Convocation	Temple	Representative	2017, 2018
Obermann Center Working Group	UIowa	Member	2012-2015
University of Iowa Delta Center	UIowa	Member	2012-2015
Delta Day Planning Committee	UIowa	Member	2014
“Envisioning Engaged U-Iowa” Conference Planning Committee	UIowa	Member	2013
Graduate Student Senate	UIowa	Full/Alternate Senator	2012-2014
College			
CPH Commencement	Temple	Marshall	2019
CPH High-Quality Teaching Committee	Temple	Member	2019-Present
CPH Junior Faculty K Group	Temple	Member	2017-Present
CPH Research Day	Temple	Poster Judge	2018, 2019
Department			
CSD Tenure-Track Search Committee	Temple	Member	2018-Present
CSD MA-SLH Committee	Temple	Member	2017-Present
NSSLHA Invited Grad Student Panel	UIowa	Panelist	2014

PROFESSIONAL OR COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Temple Department of Pediatrics Case Conference Presentation 2019
- American Speech-Language Hearing Association Conference Review Committee 2019
 - Language in Infants through Preschoolers
- Guest lecture (CSCD 4730) 2019
 - Topic: Involving parents in intervention
- Maternity Care Coalition Invited Panel 2017
 - “Building a Bridge: How can community-based organizations and university researchers work together to build effective partnerships?”

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND LICENSES

- American Speech and Hearing Association Member (ASHA, CCC-SLP) #14064637
- Pennsylvania Speech-Language Pathology License #SL012772
- International Congress on Infant Studies
- Society for Research in Child Development
- Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association

